



The Michigan Legislature

Lansing, Michigan

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SEN. JACOBS & REP. CONDINO PUSH LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

LANSING – State Senator Gilda Jacobs (D – Huntington Woods) and State Representative Paul Condino (D – Southfield) have announced legislation aimed at improving safety of students boarding and leaving school busses.

“With school back in session, we must take every precaution to assure that students are transported safely to and from school,” Sen. Jacobs said. “This legislation will help assure that safe transport.”

The legislation would extend the distance for displaying alternately flashing lights from 200 to 400 feet when students are required to cross the street in order to reach the bus stop. A second bill would require the driver of a vehicle overtaking or meeting a school bus which is displaying alternately flashing lights to be responsible for bringing their vehicle to a full stop not less than 20 feet from the school bus.

The legislation comes in response to an incident in December, 2005, when a Southfield high-school student was tragically killed crossing the street to reach her bus stop. Although the bus had already activated its warning lights, the driver of a pickup truck sped up and attempted to pass the bus in the left turn lane and the pickup truck struck and killed the 15-year-old girl.

“This tragedy could have possibly been averted had this legislation been in effect,” Rep. Condino said. “With its passage, let us assure that this is the last such tragedy.”

Rep. Condino’s bills are: HB 66450 and HB 6451. Sen. Jacob’s legislation will be introduced next week.

For more information, please contact Sen. Jacobs at 888/937-4453 or Rep. Condino at 517/373-1788.

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